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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am writing to ask that you preserve the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

I am served by a local provider, Sonic, who has given me a fiber connection for both my internet and phone. As a result of their service, when we had the fires in Northern California last year I was the only one in my neighborhood who still had internet. I also had phone service, unlike those with AT&T and other cell services, and was able to keep in touch with friends and family as evacuations proceeded and people in my town of Santa Rosa died.

Those with other services could not track the fire's progress or know what was happening. Because of local service my house was an information center for my neighborhood!

I am also concerned that if you enable monopoly there will be no competition to keep prices in check. Antitrust laws were enacted for a reason.

Please do not enable this loss of competition and of quality smaller providers!

Ellen Van Allen